

Thank you for the urge to finalize the proposed rule.

This rule only applies to U.S. families pets, not animals destined for zoos, labs, or from other countries. Please ask that the final rule define "animal" more broadly.

An estimated 5000 animals are lost, injured, or die each year due to extreme heat or cold temperatures, lack of oxygen, or rough handling while being transported in commercial airline cargo holds, but these tragedies have not been tracked in any way to distinguish them from loss or damage to ordinary baggage. To remedy this, Congress enacted a requirement in April 2000 for airlines to file monthly reports on incidents involving animals, and for the Secretary of Transportation to make this information available to the public so consumers can evaluate specific airlines' records. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has now issued a proposed rule to implement this requirement. While it's taken the agency a long time to act, we're pleased the FAA is finally moving forward on this.

Thank you again for your efforts. Please protect all animals from cruelty.

Cindy Hurtel